

To all EEC heads of government



30 January 1989

You and your government have since 1979 shown great and valuable support for the people of Afghanistan against the Soviet invader, and this policy and action have been deeply appreciated by all who value a people's right to freedom, not least, of course by the Afghan people themselves.

I am sure you are aware that the people of Afghanistan are now facing an acute shortage of food and that this situation will worsen dramatically in the coming months.

It is my conviction that any government or organisation in a position to help the people of Afghanistan should prepare NOW to meet this challenge and to prevent the suffering and starvation of innocent people.

In this respect, the Islamic Council has already started a campaign to mobilise resources of food and other necessities and to get them airlifted into the major cities of Afghanistan immediately the need becomes evident.

I am writing to request you to pledge your government's aid and support to the people of Afghanistan, and to alert charitable and relief organisations in your country, for this humanitarian purpose. I think you will agree with me that the establishment of a stable government in Afghanistan after the Soviet withdrawal is of prime importance to the world at large. If a concerted effort can be made and organised now to get vital supplies of the necessities to the Afghan people, I think that the chances of stability in that country will be much higher.

I am confident of your support.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam
Secretary General